Definitive endoscopic pyloric exclusion with an over-the-scope clip

A 48-year-old man underwent primary surgical repair of an iatrogenic duodenal perforation, sustained during endoscopic ultrasonography. After 2 weeks, dehiscence of the suture with intra-abdominal infection and abscesses was identified, for which pyloric–duodenal dissociation with pyloric closure, duodenostomy, gastrojejunostomy, and multiple drainages were performed. Spontaneous opening of the sutured pylorus with leakage of contrast was observed 4 weeks later.

Upon endoscopic evaluation, the gastrojejunostomy was normal, the pylorus was completely open, and the perforation, extruding abundant purulent content, was still identified. To avoid a third surgery, endoscopic closure of the pylorus was planned. Initially, argon plasma coagulation (APC) was used to denude the duodenal side of the pylorus. Then, a 14-t over-the-scope-clip (OTSC; Ovesco Endoscopy AG, Tübingen, Germany) was applied to the endoscope, and suction was used to invert the pylorus into the cap (Video 1). With the pylorus in that position, the clip was released, resulting in circular entrapment of the inverted pylorus. Correct positioning of the clip around the inverted pylorus was confirmed (Fig. 1 and Fig. 2). APC was then applied on the gastric side of the pylorus.

After the patient had ingested 200 mL of a methylene blue solution the next day, the absence of extravasation from the drains was confirmed, and oral intake was resumed. Clinical and radiologic improvement was seen in the following weeks, and the patient was discharged 4 weeks after the endoscopic procedure. Upon reevaluation 9 months later, the OTSC was observed in the expected position, with the inverted pylorus completely entrapped and closed by the clip (Figs. 3–5).

The OTSC has been used successfully to close digestive perforations, anastomotic leaks, fistulas, and gastrostomies after natural orifice transluminal endoscopic surgery. It has also been used to treat complications of bariatric surgery and bleeding lesions, to resect submucosal tumors, and to fix stents [1–5].

Fig. 1 In a 48-year-old man undergoing endoscopic closure of the pylorus to manage infection and dehiscence of a previously sutured iatrogenic duodenal perforation, an endoscopic image shows the over-the-scope clip (OTSC) immediately after its release into the pylorus. The pylorus was previously inverted into the cap of the OTSC. The OTSC completely entraps the pylorus.

Fig. 2 Computed tomographic scan obtained 3 days after endoscopic pyloric exclusion. The over-the-scope clip is seen entrapping the pylorus (arrow).

Video 1
Endoscopic and computed tomographic video showing suction of the pylorus and release of the over-the-scope clip with complete entrapment of the pylorus inside the clip, argon plasma coagulation of the pylorus, and endoscopic confirmation of definitive pyloric exclusion 9 months later.

Fig. 3 Endoscopic image obtained 9 months after endoscopic exclusion of the pylorus shows the pylorus entrapped and circularly closed by the OTSC.

Fig. 4 Same as Fig. 3, with a focus on the previous pyloric opening, which is now closed and epithelialized.

Fig. 5 Computed tomographic scan obtained 9 months after endoscopic pyloric exclusion. The over-the-scope clip is seen entrapping the pylorus (arrow).

Pinho Rolando et al. Definitive endoscopic pyloric exclusion with an over-the-scope clip... Endoscopy 2015; 47: E323–E324
the authors present another indication that to the best of their knowledge has not previously been reported – definitive endoscopic pyloric exclusion after dehiscence of surgical pyloric exclusion.

Competing interests: None

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